

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
**CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 6,948,173 B1  
APPLICATION NO. : 08/905701  
DATED : September 20, 2005  
INVENTOR(S) : Isom

Page 1 of 4

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

The illustrative drawing on the Title Page should be deleted and replaced with the attached figure.

Title page #75

The inventor's address on the Title Page should be amended to read:  
-- 1201 State Street, Cayce, SC 29033-4343. --

In the Drawings

Reference number "24" in Fig. 10 should be replaced with reference number -- 18 --.

Fig. 3 should be deleted and replaced with the attached figure:

Fig. 4 should be deleted and replaced with the attached figure:

#57 Abstract

Line 1, change "control task" to -- controlled tasks --.

Line 2, change "task" to -- tasks --.

Line 7, change "task" to -- tasks --.

Line 8, change "special" to -- spatial --.

Col. 14 line 45

Claim 1, line 8, change "area" to -- field --.

Col. 16, line 30

Claim 29, line 30, change "29" to -- 26 --.

Signed and Sealed this

Twenty-sixth Day of September, 2006



JON W. DUDAS  
*Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office*

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Isom**(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,948,173 B1**(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*Sep. 20, 2005**(54) **METHOD OF SEQUENCING COMPUTER CONTROLLED TASKS BASED ON THE RELATIVE SPATIAL LOCATION OF TASK OBJECTS IN A DIRECTIONAL FIELD**(76) **Inventor:** **Fred Steven Isom, 3411 1/2 Heyward St., Colombia, SC (US) 29205-2755**(\*) **Notice:** This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1043 days.

(21) **Appl. No.:** **08/905,701**(22) **Filed:** **Aug. 4, 1997**(51) **Int. Cl.:** **G06F 3/00**(52) **U.S. Cl.:** **719/316; 718/100**(58) **Field of Search:** **709/100; 395/348; 719/316; 718/100**(56) **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

4,860,204 A \* 8/1989 Gendron et al. .... 395/702  
 5,623,592 A \* 4/1997 Carlson et al. .... 345/348  
 5,767,852 A \* 6/1998 Keller et al. .... 345/348  
 5,850,548 A \* 12/1998 Williams .... 395/701

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

"Widening 'world' of neural nets" Johnson, R. Colin (Electronic Engineering Times, n756, p35, Jul. 26, 1993).  
 Ingalls et al., Sep. 25, 1988, Association for Computing Machinery.\*

"Graphical Procedural Capability," publication of International Business Machines, *IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin*, vol. 33, No. 11, Apr. 1991, pp. 184-191.

Lazar, B., "ParcPlace-Digital's Parts for Java 1.0", *Software Development*, vol. 5, No. 2, February, 1997, pp. 19-26.

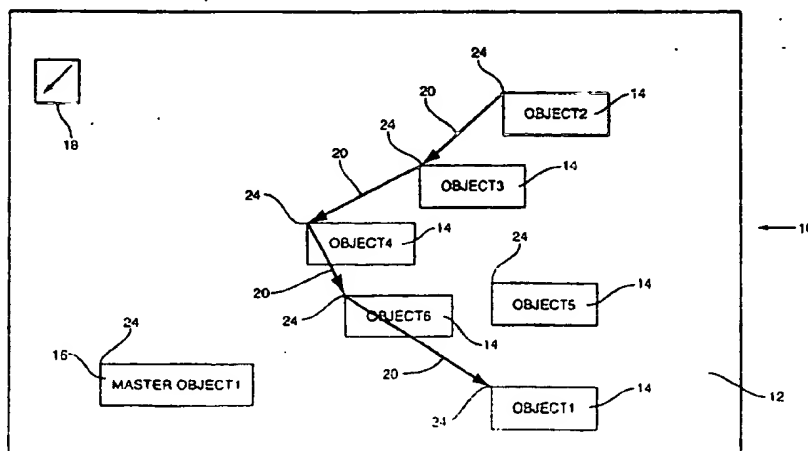
Dunn, J., et al., Test Center Comparison: Workflow Solutions—Going with the Flow, *InfoWorld*, vol. 19, Issue 1, Jan. 6, 1997, pp. 52-60.

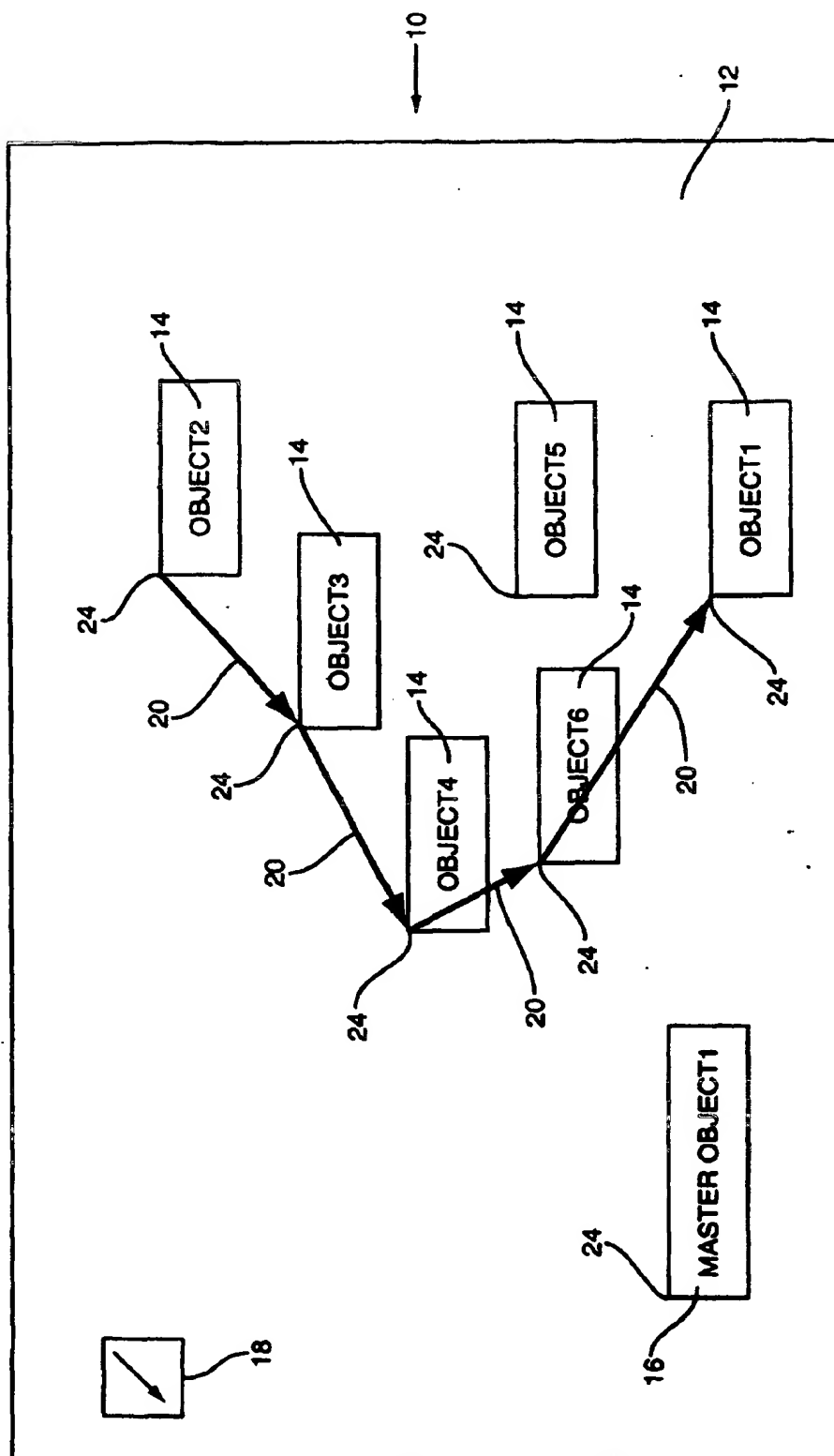
Mitchell, K., et al., "Test Center Comparison—Document Workflow Solutions, Juggling deeds, deadlines," *InfoWorld*, vol. 19, Issue 4, Jan. 27, 1997, pp. 96-107.

\* cited by examiner

**Primary Examiner**—St. John Courtenay, III**Assistant Examiner**—George L. Opie(74) **Attorney, Agent, or Firm**—Coats & Bennett, P.L.L.C.(57) **ABSTRACT**

A graphical method for sequencing computer control task uses objects to represent the task to be performed by the computer. The objects are placed in a directional field having a directional attribute which specifies how the tasks are to be sequenced. The sequence of tasks to be performed collectively defines a procedure. When the procedure is initiated, the computer automatically sequences the task within the procedure based on the relative special location of the task objects and the directional attribute. The sequence can be modified by changing the relative location of the task objects or by changing the directional attribute.

**38 Claims, 20 Drawing Sheets**



## Figure 3

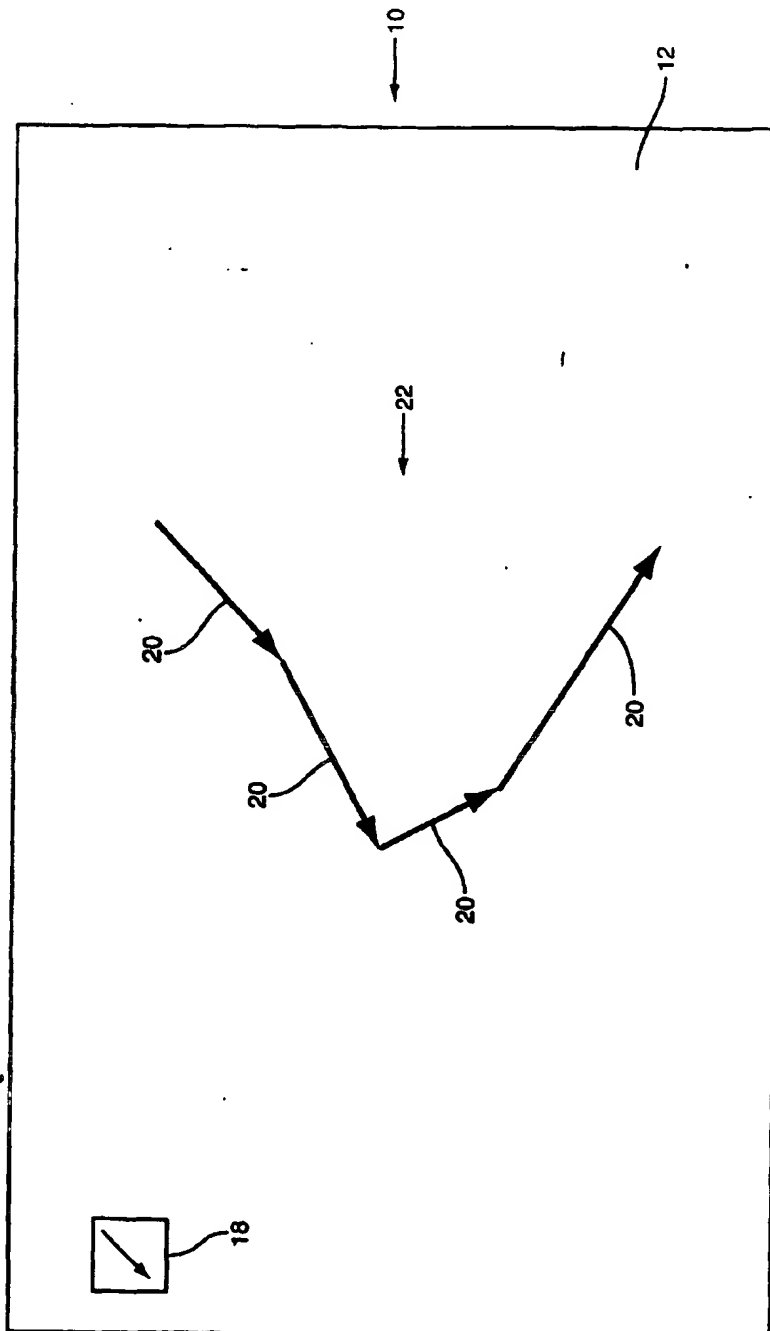


Figure 4